

FRAME CLAMP FOR ANCHOR STRAP

We claim:

1. A clamp for attaching an elongate anchor strap to a frame component having a top side having
2 a width, a bottom side, a distal edge having a longitudinal axis, and a proximal edge; said clamp
comprising:

4 a top jaw comprising:

a central portion adapted for overlying the top side of the frame component; said

6 central portion including:

a distal end; and

8 a proximal end;

an engaging portion connected to said central portion distal end and projecting
10 downward from said central portion including:

bearing surface means for bearing against the frame component distal edge
12 responsive to anchor strap tension such that said top jaw aligns with the anchor strap when the anchor
strap is not perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the frame component distal edge; and

14 a proximal portion connected to said central portion; and

a bottom jaw comprising:

16 a gripping portion including:

a contact area for contacting said bottom side of the frame component opposite
18 said central portion; and

a connecting portion including:

20 attaching means for attaching the anchor strap; and

fastening means for fastening said bottom jaw to said proximal portion of said top jaw such
22 that said jaws grip the frame component

2. The clamp of Claim 1 wherein:

2 said fastening means includes:

a fastener between said bottom jaw and said proximal portion of said top jaw; and wherein:

4 said proximal portion of said top jaw includes:

adjustment means for adjusting the distance between said fastener and said bearing surface.

6 such that said clamp may clamp to frame component top sides of various widths.

3. The clamp of Claim 1 wherein:

2 said engaging portion includes:

4 an underlying portion for underlying the bottom side of the frame component such that said top jaw cannot be removed directly upward.

4. The clamp of Claim 1 wherein:

2 said bearing surface means of said top jaw comprises:

an arcuate bearing surface that is convex relative to the frame component distal edge

5. A clamp for attaching an elongate anchor strap to a support beam of a manufactured home

2 supported above the ground from an anchor head disposed near the ground to the side of the beam; the support beam including: a top flange including: a top side having a width; a bottom side; a distal edge;

4 and a proximal edge; said clamp including:

a top jaw comprising:

6 a central portion adapted for overlying the top side of the top flange; said central portion including:

8 a distal end; and

a proximal end;

10 an engaging portion connected to said central portion distal end and projecting downward from said central portion including:

12 bearing surface means for bearing against the flange distal edge responsive to anchor strap tension such that said top jaw aligns with the anchor strap when the anchor strap is not perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the flange distal edge ; and

14 a proximal portion connected to said central portion; and

16 a bottom jaw comprising:
a gripping portion including:
18 a contact area for contacting said bottom side of the flange opposite said
central portion; and
20 a connecting portion including:
attaching means for attaching the anchor strap; and
22 fastening means for fastening said bottom jaw to proximal portion of said top jaw such that
said jaws grip the flange

6. The clamp of Claim 5 wherein:
2 said fastening means includes:
a fastener between said bottom jaw and said proximal portion of said top jaw; and wherein:
4 said proximal portion of said top jaw includes:
adjustment means for adjusting the distance between said fastener and said bearing surface.
6 such that said clamp may clamp to flange top sides of various widths.

7. The clamp of Claim 5 wherein:
2 said engaging portion includes:
an underlying portion for underlying the bottom side of the flange such that said top jaw cannot
4 be removed directly upward.

8. The clamp of Claim 5 wherein:
2 said bearing surface means comprises:
an arcuate bearing surface that is convex relative to the flange distal edge
4

9. In combination:
2 a manufactured home including:
a support beam including:
4 a medial web; and

a top flange connected to said web including:

6 a top side having a width;

 a bottom side;

8 a distal edge having a longitudinal axis; and

 a proximal edge;

10 supports supporting said beam above the ground;

 an anchor strap assembly including:

12 an elongate anchor strap including:

 a bottom end; and

14 a top end;

 an anchor head disposed near the ground to the side of said beam; said anchor head

16 connected to said bottom end of said anchor strap; and

 a clamp including:

18 a top jaw comprising:

 a central portion adapted for overlying said top side of said top flange; said

20 central portion including:

 a distal end; and

22 a proximal end;

 an engaging portion connected to said central portion distal end and projecting

24 downward from said central portion including:

 bearing surface means for bearing against said flange distal edge

26 responsive to tension in said anchor strap such that said top jaw aligns with said anchor strap when said

 anchor strap is not perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of said flange distal edge; and

28 a proximal portion connected to said central portion; and

 a bottom jaw comprising:

30 a gripping portion including:

 a contact area for contacting said bottom side of said flange opposite

32 said central portion; and

 a connecting portion including:

34 attaching means fastening said top end of said anchor strap to said
clamp; and

36 fastening means fastening said bottom jaw to proximal portion of said top jaw such that
said jaws grip said flange.

10. The combination of Claim 9 wherein:

2 said fastening means includes:

 a fastener between said bottom jaw and said proximal portion of said top jaw; and wherein:

4 said proximal portion of said top jaw includes:

 adjustment means for adjusting the distance between said fastener and said bearing surface.

6 such that said clamp may clamp to flange top sides of various widths.

11. The combination of Claim 9 wherein:

2 said engaging portion includes:

 an underlying portion for underlying the bottom side of said flange such that said top jaw

4 cannot be removed directly upward.

12. The combination of Claim 9 wherein:

2 said bearing surface of said top jaw comprises:

 an arcuate bearing surface that is convex relative to said flange distal edge.